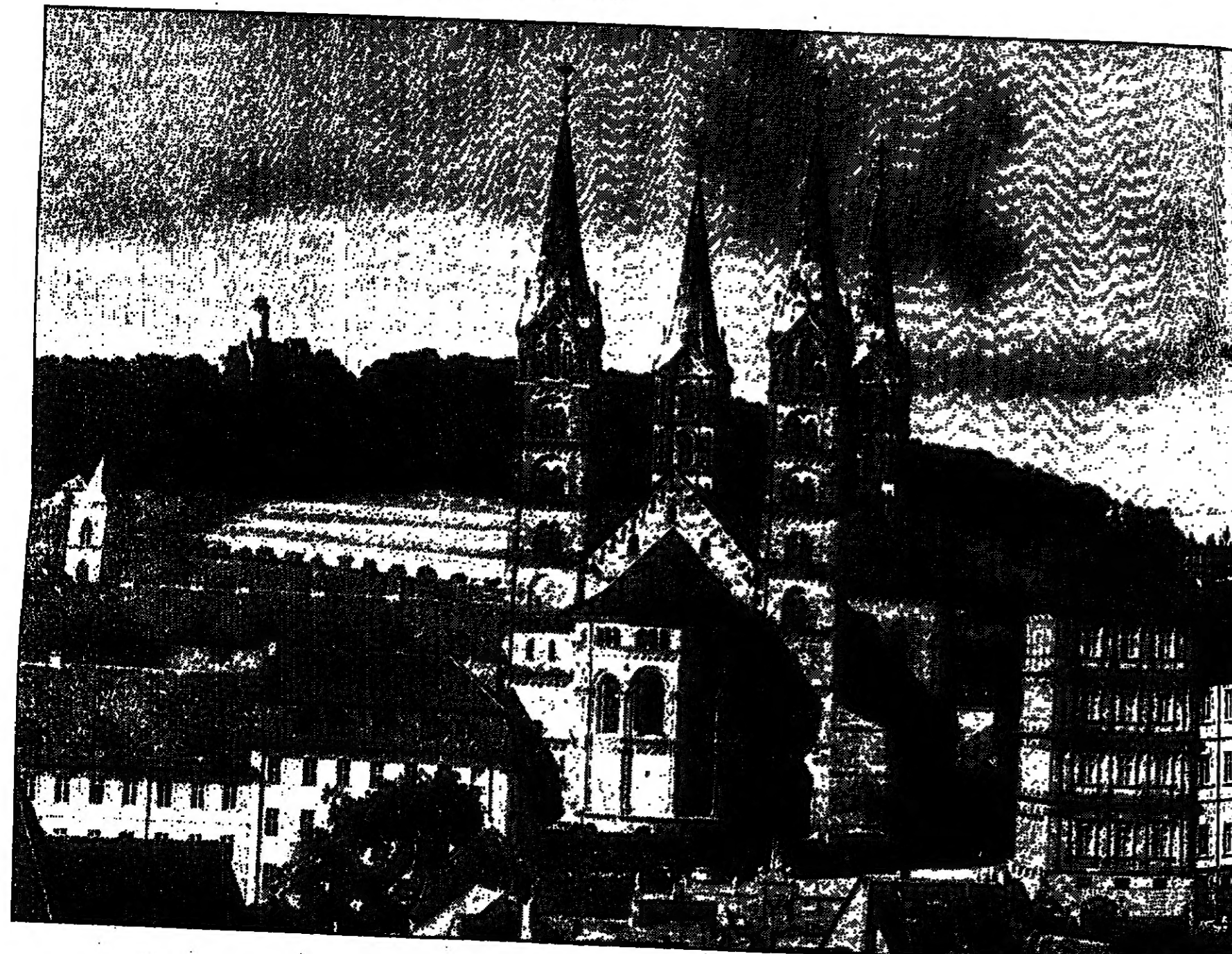


Germany's churches and cathedrals

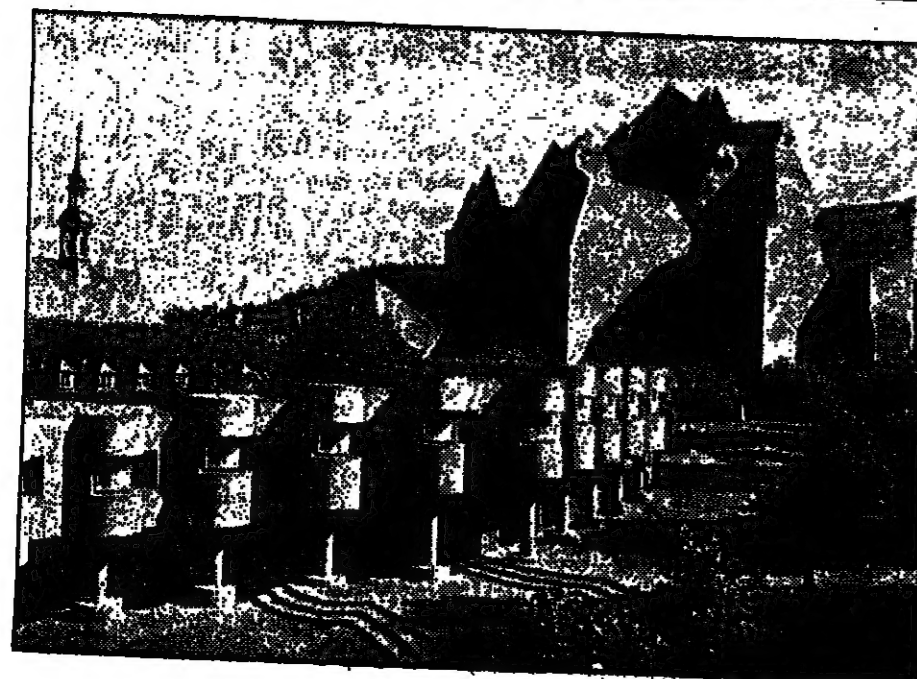
Everyone knows, of course, that in Cologne, Worms, Freiburg, Aachen, Ulm and elsewhere ancient Gothic and Romanesque cathedrals tower up like castles into the sky. Impressive structures down to the very treasures in their vaults. For even here, in this land of industry, tourism, inter-city trains, airlines and motorways, churches, cathedrals and chapels have more than a spiritual function. They are reminders, thought-provoking, cherished as

artistic masterpieces. Take, for instance, the delightful Romanesque church in Dietkirchen on the Lahn. Or the enchanting Wieskirche, surrounded by the woods and meadows of the Alpine foothills in Upper Bavaria. Clear, serene, rococo splendour. Just two examples from many thousands. "Churches," as James Joyce wrote in 1915 on a Rhine journey, "like miracles from heaven."



Bamberg, Bavaria

Velbert Neviges Church in the Ruhr



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FDP comeback key to coalition victory

Bonn Chancellor Helmut Schmidt's coalition of Social and Free Democrats was returned to office by an increased majority for a further four-year term in the general election on 6 October. The Free Democrats fared surprisingly well, while the Social Democrats held their own. The Christian Democrats failed in their bid to regain power in Bonn under the leadership of Bavarian Premier Franz Josef Strauss.

There can be no doubt this time who won the Bonn general election. It was Helmut Schmidt and his Free Democrats.

Time and again the FDP has staged a recovery from what seemed almost certain oblivion. Only last May it took a hammering in the North-Rhine-Westphalian state assembly elections.

Pundits presaged an equally dismal showing in the October general election, yet the Free Democrats, junior partners in Helmut Schmidt's Bonn coalition, went on to achieve their second-best result ever.

The only time they fared better than their latest 10.6-per-cent share of the votes cast in a general election was in 1961 when they polled 12.8 per cent. This they did by capitalising on CDU/CSU mistakes.

This time too the FDP probably benefited first and foremost from the mistakes of others. CDU/CSU losses were little short of a landslide.

Christian Democrats can no longer deny that nominating Franz Josef Strauss as Shadow Chancellor was a bad

The election results were a clear decision. If there was any surprise it was the unambiguous nature of the outcome.

After 11 years in power the SPD-FDP coalition has emerged with an increased majority. The Opposition, not the ruling parties, have shown signs of wear and tear.

Their sole consolation, such as it is, is that the CDU/CSU will continue to be the largest parliamentary party in the Bundestag.

They are as far away from a return to power as ever, while Chancellor Schmidt can calmly anticipate another four years at the head of the Bonn government.

On the quiet Herr Schmidt may well be far from unhappy that SPD left-wingers should be kept in check by the reinforcement of the FDP's ranks.

If the results are read as any indication of an electoral mandate they can only be taken to mean that voters wanted neither a CDU/CSU government nor government by the SPD alone.

They cannot be taken as a favourable judgement on either of the major parties. Voters are not keen on government by a single party.

The FDP's showing, on the other hand, could well be taken as a pointer that voters continue to prefer a party-political system of checks and balances.

In this respect the electorate has shown political maturity again.

The Bonn coalition will be able to continue current policies. If there is to be any shift, then it will most likely be a case of the SPD having to pay greater heed to the newly confident FDP.

Among Free Democrats those who felt their best policy was to set themselves apart from the SPD are bound to feel vindicated.

The FDP owes its famous victory not to young left-wingers in the party but to Free Democrats more in the mould of Economic Affairs Minister Count Lambsdorff.

The election results ought certainly to



Faces of triumph: Chancellor for another term, Helmut Schmidt, after the election, with Hans-Dietrich Genscher, leader of the Free Democrats, who managed to increase their crucial share of the vote from 7.9 to 10.6 per cent. (Photo: dpa)

Result a win for political centre

make all the parties sit back and think. Social Democrats, for instance, would do well to consider that had it not been for Chancellor Schmidt's prestige they would probably have fared much worse than in 1976.

In the end the SPD managed to hold its own, but only because Herr Schmidt consistently refused to yield to radical demands from the party ranks.

Assuming this lesson is learnt, it should lead to the Social Democrats practising moderation in future too.

The results present the CDU and CSU with most serious difficulties even though they may, in joint harness, have remained the largest parliamentary party in Bonn.

But they must surely realise that the markedly conservative, not to say reactionary, approach favoured by Herr Strauss does not pay.

Sooner or later they are going to have to find a new figurehead. There is no hurry, but if the Opposition parties are to stand a better chance next time round they will have to adopt a new approach and not just a change of name at the top.

For Bonn's position in the world at

Continued on page 4

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mistake. He evidently sent doves of peace straight into the FDP's arms.

Many may well have realised the CDU/CSU stood no chance of gaining majority this time and settled in the circumstances to strengthen the hand of the Free Democrats as a counterweight to the ruling coalition.

How the parties polled

	1980		1976		1972	
	%age	seats*	%age	seats*	%age	seats*
SPD	42.9	218	42.6	214	45.8	230
CDU/CSU	44.5	226	48.6	243	44.9	225
FDP	10.8	53	7.9	39	8.4	41
Green	1.5	-	-	-	-	-
Others	0.5	-	0.6	-	0.6	-

* Figures do not include the 22 West Berlin representatives.

Not even the respect Helmut Schmidt enjoys both in SPD ranks and among those of his party-political opponents proved enough to outweigh scepticism about certain trends in his party.

Delighted though the FDP may be with the result, it need not be too high-spirited. All it need mean is an overwhelming vote of confidence in the party's leader, Foreign Minister Genscher.

The useful majority the coalition now enjoys in the Bundestag need not mean that governing is going to prove any easier, especially for the Chancellor.

In the coalition, as in the Opposition, differences of opinion are more likely to come to the fore than hitherto.

(Editor: Siegfried Kasper, 6 October 1980)

■ WORLD AFFAIRS

Challenge to North over news dissemination

Major news agencies in the northern hemisphere monopolise the flow of information, complain Third World countries.

They say that as a result, there is a flow of information from the developed to the developing countries. But news from the Third World seldom reached the industrialised countries.

A demand by the developing countries for a new international information order is a main item on the agenda of talks in Belgrade in which the future of Unesco, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation, is being debated.

More than 2,500 delegates from 152 countries are involved.

Many developing countries lack a journalistic infrastructure and are thus unable to maintain correspondents of their own in the northern hemisphere.

Often they are not even in a position to cover events in their own or neighbouring countries and learn what is going on from their own point of view.

In 1975, for instance, when Surinam gained independence from Holland, press coverage all over Latin America relied entirely on North American agency reports.

"Surinam", wrote Chilean media specialist Fernando Reyes Matta, "laid bare the sub-continent's inability to see and interpret even itself."

Many Third World countries are even more heavily dependent on the industrialised world for TV programmes than they are for press coverage.

Argentina, for instance, imports 20 per cent of its TV programmes. Colombia imports 34 and Guatemala 84 per cent, nearly all from the United States.

Argentina has an illiteracy rate of 7.4 per cent, Colombia 19 and Guatemala over 50 per cent.

The often devastating repercussions of this head-on clash between two cultures for those who live in the "less developed" of the two have rightly been lamented.

So the aim of a new information order ought surely to be to enable the Third World to train enough journalists and to provide them with the technical means of going about their work.

In this way they would be able to report on both their own countries and the industrialised world in their own media and from their own point of view.

Recipe for Middle East peace

Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher has reiterated Bonn's readiness to back any international bid to arrive at a political settlement of the Gulf war between Iraq and Iran.

"In common with its fellow-members of the European Community the Federal government supports the maintenance of freedom of shipping in the Gulf as of vital importance to the entire international community", he said.

A lasting settlement of the conflict between the two countries must uphold the principle of non-intervention in other countries' home affairs and of both countries' territorial integrity.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung, Nr. Deutschland, 1 October 1980)

But the mere idea of an information order has made many observers sit up and take notice. A number of developing countries evidently want not only to purvey their view of the world in their own media but also to bring under official control the views others voice on the Third World.

The West has objected in the strongest terms to any such plans, and its viewpoint may be summarised as follows: —

It advocates and supports the development of media systems in the Third World but objects to any attempt to limit the freedom of press coverage by means of an international information order.

Western countries are even more dead set against the idea now the Soviet Union has sided with the Third World. Moscow advocates an information order by the terms of which "objective" coverage is limited to what suits the country about which a journalist is reporting.

Many developing countries are attracted by this idea, either being ruled by dictators or represented by state-run news agencies.

Russia and many Third World countries object to "subjective" coverage. But since various views are possible on a given subject the "subjective" viewpoint is an indispensable feature of freedom of coverage.

Given the famine that periodically devastates Bangladesh a Bangladeshi journalist might well, for instance, regard Mr Ceausescu's Rumania as a progressive country because no-one goes hungry there.

One of the main aims of the Helsinki review conference in Madrid next month should be to convene a European disarmament conference.

This, Bonn considers, would be a basis for all other confidence-building measures.

Bonn Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher has criss-crossed the country canvassing for the Madrid conference.

Bonn considers it the most important international political gathering since the 1975 Helsinki conference on security and cooperation in Europe.

It has good reason for setting fresh store by Madrid. The principles of security and cooperation in Europe as framed at Helsinki have often been given short shrift in the day-to-day conduct of political affairs.

The process of detente, in which Bonn played an active role from the start, has since 1975 been subjected to one encumbrance after another. After the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan it even ground to a halt.

That is why Herr Genscher, addressing the International Conference on Soviet and East European Studies in Garmisch-Partenkirchen, warned:

"Bridging the divide that runs through Europe is a task that will take generations. It must be persevered with even though chillier East-West ties may make it more difficult. The concept drawn up at Helsinki must be able to survive setbacks."

There can be no mistaking the way Herr Genscher has lately stressed the impor-

Western correspondents, taking a different viewpoint, will doubtless stress entirely different aspects. Their respective views are both justified; neither ought to be suppressed by an international information order.

So if the Third World were merely to set about establishing an information system suitable to meet its needs the problem would soon be solved.

The complications arise because a number of developing countries seek to impose on the industrialised world their view of the problems.

The industrialised countries, on the other hand, are anxious not to forgo the possibility of marketing their media output overseas, especially via satellite TV networks.

A further problem is that in the West the media mainly deal with facts and analyse events, whereas the Third World regards the media as a means of promoting social and national development.

An item on the Unesco agenda in Belgrade is the McBride Report, compiled by a commission chaired by Irish Nobel laureate Sean McBride.

The McBride Commission spent years probing the world's communications problems and its report contains ample material. But it is reluctant to make recommendations.

As a result it has given rise to many controversies without, by any stretch of the imagination, paving the way for compromise. A criticism levelled at the report in the West is that it bolsters the inclination of a number of countries to blame anyone but themselves for problems for which they have only themselves to blame.

Yet there are signs of a departure from this attitude. Tanjug, the Yugoslav news agency, is coordinating a pool of about 70 Third World agencies.

Their collective aim is to report mainly on developing countries' problems.

Haiko Flotiau

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 3 October 1980)

Disarmament conference 'aim in Madrid'

tance of economic cooperation as a means of reducing political conflict.

"The opportunities of mutually beneficial economic cooperation between East and West have not yet been fully exploited", he told the Garmisch gathering.

In a written answer to a Bundestag question tabled by the Social and Free Democrats the Bonn government this month listed the reasons why East bloc trade ties are still hamstrung despite signs of progress.

In most East bloc countries working conditions for Western businessmen continue to be unsatisfactory. There has been no elimination of the difficulties they encounter in forging links with individual works.

There has been no progress worth mentioning in economic and trade information since the Helsinki accords, then. Herr Genscher now considers the importance of economic cooperation for CSCE purposes as follows:

"Economic ties promote contacts between individuals and are in the interest of greater transparency, so they also exercise an influence on political ties."

Economic interdependence may not eliminate ideological, political differences between East and West but it does reinforce interest in maintaining

Salt 3 opens East-West channels

Resumption of Salt 3 talks in Geneva has reopened a major channel for East-West cooperation that seemed to have been closed for some time after the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan.

But the connecting links between superpowers are extremely slender and preliminary talks lead to detailed negotiations.

Medium-range missiles in Europe are not the only item on the agenda. Salt 2 is ratified talks on qualitative limitation in the intercontinental missile race are due to be held.

This is where the problem arises since Washington is not yet ready to declare its newly developed MX missile negotiable topic.

Until it does so the Kremlin is certain not to agree to negotiate on SS-20 missiles aimed at European targets, which is what the West wants to discuss at Geneva.

Europe is currently pressing much more keenly than the United States with its bid to open up arms control talks.

President Carter's medium-range missiles scheduled for stationing in Europe by 1983 ensure him a strategic lever of this organisation. Even if the geohe is unlikely to declare negotiations without good reason.

So the 1983 deadline, the date which Nato was to station Pershing and Cruise missiles in Europe, has made substantial progress at the conference table, looks like going by the book.

Klaus-Ulrich Meier

(Stuttgarter Nachrichten, 27 September 1980)

cooperation, thereby raising higher the conflict readiness threshold.

"Lasting and mutually advantageous relations can only be established with an economically stable partner", Herr Genscher said.

So the serious economic challenges facing the East and West face in the 80s, especially in the energy sector, deserve a detailed debate in Madrid.

Bonn would not, at the same time, like to be misunderstood on account of the importance it attaches to economic cooperation.

The three CSCE mainstays, military, economic and humanitarian measures, further detente and cooperation, are intended to remain a single political unit and to be treated as equally important features of the Helsinki accords.

Hans Jörg Siegel

(Handelsblatt, 3 October 1980)

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STATE SECURITY Fear of left-wing extremism cloaks danger from right



Relatives of the dead and dying at the memorial service for the victims of the Munich Oktoberfest bomb blast (Photo: Sven Simon)

has been known ever since the turbulent years of the Weimar Republic extremists spur each other into action.

In Turkey and Italy — to mention just two examples — left and right extremists have been fighting it out for years.

It might sound harsh, but it would be comprehensible if the leftists who are coming amok against our democratic society had not found emulators on the right wing.

Since the attacks in Hamburg and Munich, few now fail to realise the dangers of which right extremists are capable.

The paramilitary groups on the right, the nucleus of our society have been known to the security forces for years.

There can be no doubt as to the danger of this organisation. Even if the geohe is unlikely to declare negotiations without good reason.

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Relatives of the dead and dying at the memorial service for the victims of the Munich Oktoberfest bomb blast (Photo: Sven Simon)

Uncertainty over whether bomber acted alone

Handelsblatt

The macabre contrast between the inability to mourn and the ability to make merry, the fact that respect for the 12 victims and the grief of their next-of-kin could not stop the merry-go-round, the ferris wheel and the roller coasters is frightening — especially in a city that calls itself "the metropolis with a heart."

The horror at this act of madness by a misguided young person is matched by the shock at the reaction to this atrocity.

At least on the day of the memorial service for the victims the merry-making at the Oktoberfest and the electioneering did come to a standstill.

The police are still uncertain whether the 21-year-old geology student Gundolf Köhler acted alone when planting the bomb or in concert with other members of the banned paramilitary Sport Group Hoffmann.

The six members of the group who were arrested had to be released for lack of evidence.

Even so, the grenades and other explosives found in the home of one of the group's members show the criminal energy of these right-wing fanatics.

As incomprehensible as the Munich bloodbath might be, the security forces have long been aware of the threat to violence among the neo-Nazis.

As far back as last December, the Bonn Interior Ministry said that neo-Nazi publications and the weapons that were found indicated an increasing inclination to use violence.

The bomb attacks on homes for asylum seekers and the Munich atrocity bear out this assessment of the situation.

(Kölnischer Stadt-Anzeiger, 30 September 1980)

The interior ministers responsible, Bonn's Gerhart Baum and Bavaria's Gerold Tandler, will have to account for what the security forces under them have done to keep an eye on the Hoffmann gang since it was banned.

It would be worth appointing a parliamentary inquiry commission to find out whether it was wrong assessment of the situation, inadequate observation of the gang and lack of cooperation between individual security agencies that facilitated the bomb attack.

Even after the elections, all parties must have an interest in shedding light on possible omissions and drawing the necessary conclusions.

There can obviously be no defence against such acts of madness. But this means that efforts must be stepped up to prevent more young people from becoming misguided in this way.

Practical demonstration

of values needed.

Nut cases can turn into a deadly danger. What is needed is politicians who in their own lives demonstrate the value of our democracy, who can be taken as examples. Parents and schools also have a part to play here.

Nobody can possibly want the security of a police state. But all the talk about a state of shock puts the officers of our security forces into a dangerous twilight. Here Interior Minister Baum has occasionally failed to lend these officers his support.

There is also no need for a public discussion with a repentant terrorist as a means of deterring others.

Rainer Narendorf

(Handelsblatt, 30 September 1980)

CRIME

68-day ordeal for abducted children

Three German teenagers kidnapped in north Italy in July have been released after 68 days.

They were released in good health on an abandoned farm near Berignone in the parish of Casale d'Elsa, Tuscany.

The release is not only relief for the people in both countries who suffered with the two families involved but also for the future of relations between Italians and Germans.

Fears on this latter score, in fact, still exist and will take some time to disappear.

The children, Susanne and Sabine Kronzucker (aged respectively 15 and 13) and their cousin, Martin Wächter (15) were discovered by a forestry worker in the farmhouse on the abandoned farm about 8.30 am.

Susanne told him in broken Italian that the kidnappers had brought them to the farmhouse at 3 am.

No one, neither police nor parents, was to be told before 11 am, the kidnappers had said.

The German consulate in Florence did not notify the parents until 10.20 am, when the children were having breakfast in the forester's house.

The three were kidnapped at midday on July 25. They were staying at a holiday house on a farm, but as they had been swimming in a local pool, were wearing only swimming clothing.

The old farmhouse in the parish of Barberino Val d'Elsa, belongs to Prince Corsini. The two families rented it fairly cheaply, as it is not luxurious.

Either three or four bandits grabbed the children from almost beneath the gaze of the parents. A third child, Petra Wächter, 13, was not taken.

At the time, the father of the two girls, TV journalist Dieter Kronzucker, was inside.

Later he blamed himself for not seeing what happened. But this could hardly have prevented the kidnapping.

The kidnappers escaped via the nearby Siena-Florence motorway. Renate Kronzucker, mother of the two girls, appeared on Italian television to the kidnappers to give their children clothes.

Coalition victory

Continued from page 1

large the general election result is far from bad.

Fortune wrote in its last issue before the West German elections that only one of the three options was bad for America.

It would be alright if the current coalition were to continue in office or the CDU/CSU were returned to power but bad if the SPD were to govern alone. Other Western countries may well have shared this view.

Chancellor Schmidt enjoys a fund of goodwill abroad, and governments as a rule prefer things to stay as they are. So the outcome is sure to be welcomed.

Wolfgang Wagner

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 6 October 1980)

Suspicion immediately fell on Sardinian shepherds, the Anonima Sequestri, members of a kidnapping group which has been operating in Tuscany for some years. Many of the suspects are known to the police. Some are on the run, others are in prison — but have good contacts to accomplices outside.

These Sardinian shepherds seem to have brought the undesirable customs of their homeland to the Italian mainland. This is why they were not welcome everywhere in Tuscany. Last year Sardinian bandits kidnapped the English Schild family. The daughter, Annabele, was not released until nine months later.

The German public discovered that kidnappings are comparatively frequent in Italy. There have been almost 400 there in the past 20 years.

But the kidnapping of three German children in Italy shocked the German public.

And maybe the outcry scared the kidnappers a little.

Attempts to get the children released took more than two months. The Italian police did everything in their power. A number of arrests were made. The number of suspects had been reduced. It seemed that the police were closing in.

The public will never know by what methods the police hoped to get to the hard core of the gang.

It cannot be ruled out that the kidnappers reckoned that the risk of holding the children any longer was too great.

The prospects of finding the children by a manhunt in Tuscany seemed remote given the geography of the area with its endless hills, woods and deserted farms. However, some of the suspects interrogated may have given the police useful tips.

Throughout this time, investigations and negotiations between the family and the kidnappers were going on.

Too early to say if victims are unscathed

The three children were cheerful and looked healthy, said an eye-witness describing the happy reunion between the Wächter and Kronzucker families and their children.

The sentences say a lot and a little, at the same time.

A lot because the kidnapping drama, which lasted over two months, did have a happy ending despite some pessimistic predictions.

A little because it is more than an open question whether the three children have really come through the experience unscathed.

Many previous kidnappings prove that scepticism is, unfortunately, called for here.

Many victims suffered from their experiences that the psychological after-effects lasted for years. This was the case with the victims of the Mogadishu li-



All smiles against the release: from left, Martin Wächter, Susanne Kronzucker and Sabine Kronzucker.

Dieter Kronzucker realised a few days after the kidnapping that too much publicity could be harmful and asked his colleagues in the media to keep quiet.

With hardly any exceptions, they complied. What German and Italian journalists found out in this period they kept to themselves.

Two weeks ago, the parents received two letters which indicated that the kidnappers are Sardinian separatists with considerable resentments towards the people of Tuscany. It is possible however, that this was just a trick to make the crime appear politically motivated.

After receiving the letters, signed by Chaka II, the head of the gang, the families sent DM42,000 to a newspaper prison in Pistoia. They also had the following message read out over Italian radio: "The financial aid given to the prison newspaper in Pistoia yesterday is a gift from Chaka."

This does not seem to have been the only payment to the kidnappers.

In the days before the release, there were rumours that a German bank had transferred DM11m to Herr Kronzucker in Tuscany.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 2 October 1980)

lacking and the Mollucca hostage drama in the Netherlands.

Sometimes, these effects do not emerge until years after the event — in the form of nightmares and nervous disorders.

This is a point that should be borne in mind when talking about the happy ending of the kidnapping.

The children and their parents deserve our deep sympathy. They must have suffered many hours of despair as a result of this act, which came like a bolt out of the blue in the midst of their holiday in beautiful Tuscany. Their sufferings made us forget for a while major world political events.

After the release of the children, these political events — the strikes in Poland, the war between Iran and Iraq, the dispute about the bomb attack in Munich — will again command our attention.

But the Kronzucker case should make us pause.

It is something that could happen to any one of us. Friedhelm Fiedler (Stuttgarter Nachrichten, 2 October 1980)

An end to the kidnappings not likely

Elbeter Nachrichten

A whole country was appalled. Relief and joy dominated.

Between these two reactions were 68 painful days of waiting for families and the public.

Now that the children have been released, many may be inclined to say "all's well that ends well."

But of course we still have to live in the state of a world in which such atrocious crimes are increasingly rare.

The Munich bomb attack has shown once again that extremist and terrorist violence is not restricted to one part of the world.

The reactions of politicians to the happy ending of the kidnapping in Italy underline how close to the bone the case went.

Quite rightly the circumstances in which the families waited for months for a solution has been phrased and praised.

Relief at the happy ending of the Kronzucker case should not blind us to the fact that the potential danger to human life by assassinations and kidnapping in Italy will no doubt continue.

German children likely target

There seem, after all, to be indications that Sardinian bandits also to continue to kidnap German children as part of their struggle for Sardinian independence.

This could be a bluff aimed at the tourists.

But it could also be more serious. At any rate, the kidnapping of three children has brought home to Germans that we too are being targeted by a form of criminal violence.

It is something that could happen to any one of us. Friedhelm Fiedler (Stuttgarter Nachrichten, 2 October 1980)

LABOUR

Metalworkers' leader hits at 'dogmatism'

Eugen Loderer's speech at the IG Metall (Metal Workers' Union) conference was a commitment to trade union dogmatism and a clear rejection of theoretical and ideological dogmatism.

It was a radical "no" to "theoretical dogmatism" and "academic dogmas of behaviour."

Union leader Loderer has never before underlined the distance between him and his intellectual critics as emphatically as this.

His speech was a commitment to the school of trade union policies, in which moderate reforms are the central plank.

He proposed a code of behaviour for large companies. Here he was obviously flying a kite. Nonetheless employers should not simply dismiss the proposal — although no major company is likely to commit itself to not sacking large numbers of workers should the need arise.

If one takes the efforts of AEG boss Hans Dürr as an example, we can see that there are employers who put the guarantee of jobs at the top of their list of company policies. So despite all the scepticism Eugen Loderer's proposals are not all that bizarre.

As for internal union policies, Loderer made it plain that he means to strengthen the leadership. His aim is to have contacts with the employers at the highest levels and to have the entire union behind him. Loderer never tires of stressing that he is willing to hold bind-

Dissent on wage agreements

A large minority of metal workers do not accept that regional negotiating committees should simply accept wage agreements worked out by the central union.

A vote at the IG Metall conference in Berlin which amounted to a clash between democratisation on the one hand and centralism on the other was won by the union executive by 314 votes to 247, a margin of 67.

The executive took the centrist line. But the voting figures mean that the dissenting side cannot be described as a small minority.

It is a vote which should give the executive food for thought.

The thing the vote underlined was that the battle-hardened delegates from Stuttgart are not as isolated as at first seemed.

Stuttgart district leader Franz Steinhilber got the second-loudest applause of the conference for his stance on this question. (The loudest applause of all went of Helmut Schmidt, who opened the conference.)

The problem is therefore deeper than any mere rivalries between union districts.

The union executive bases its claim to a sole right of representation on the centralisation of the employers.

However, the difference between trade unions and employers' associations is that the union leadership is democratically elected and they have to answer for their actions. Complaints that everything is much more difficult do not create a climate of trust.

(Stuttgarter Nachrichten, 27 September 1980)

ing talks. And he would like to see his code of behaviour included in such talks. But this is also the snag. Loderer, whose self-confidence has grown in the labour disputes of the past three years and who was re-elected almost unanimously, is moving towards rigorous trade union centralism.

Of course he said that trade union bodies should not merely become associations of yes-men. But on the other hand he now tends to seek solutions for problems in central committees with the employers, to impose wage agreements in union districts by means of so-called pilot procedures and impose his will on the rank and file.

This seems to be just what many members want.

Many delegates from Baden-Württemberg discovered this to their cost. At the union conference three years ago, these delegates put their stamp on the course of the whole conference and gained majorities for resolutions against the union executive.

This time the boot was on the other foot and it was they who were defeated. And when they asked how binding the conference resolutions on the DGB manifesto were, they were out on their own. District boss Franz Steinhilber and his supporters will have to look critically at their situation.

The fact is that they seem to be isolated. It would be disastrous if this were so, and it would be worse if the Stuttgart district were to be accused of forming factions. This would be unjust because Baden-Württemberg — as Loderer himself said — has achieved major successes for the union in the past.

Many Baden-Württemberg delegates wish, quite justifiably, to clarify positions. This is where they differ from many of their colleagues. They will not now go home with their heads hanging.

On future wage policy they have the support of the resolution commission and thus probably of a majority. This means they will have a major say in the most important aspect of union policy.

Jens Peter Eichmeyer (Stuttgarter Nachrichten, 26 September 1980)

Employers' spokesman warns of 'rationalisation dangers'

The human being must be the central concern of industry, according to the chief of an employers' association.

Dr Dieter Kirchner, head of the Confederation of Iron and Steel Industry Employers, said that rationalisation against people brought no real progress.

"What is technologically feasible must not be the criterion," he said at a meeting in Cologne.

He then assured the meeting that this was not mere polite waffle.

His organisation's legal adviser, as if to underline the sincerity of these protestations, insisted that employees and their unions had no legal right of co-decision on the introduction of new technology and that company should not prejudice this situation by internal agreements.

Increasing technology in production and, more recently, administration has led to dramatic change in many profes-



At the IG Metall conference in Berlin: the leader, Eugen Loderer (left) who was re-elected, and his deputy, Hans Mayer. (Photo: dpa)

Union chief rejects call for state steel takeover

The leader of the metalworkers' union (IG Metall) has rejected a call for the steel industry to be nationalised.

Eugen Loderer, in his closing speech at the union conference in Berlin, said that a change of ownership would not solve the problems of the industry.

Some delegates had argued that the industry should be freed from economic pressures.

One delegate said that capitalism and democracy got on like fire and water. Loderer was re-elected leader with a larger majority than anticipated.

Loderer, 60, and like the other executive candidates unopposed, got 495 out of 552 votes — 89.7 per cent; 33 delegates voted against him and 24 abstained.

At the last union conference, Loderer got 88.7 per cent. Many union delegates said then that he got such a good result because it was the last time he was standing.

Deputy leader Hans Mayer got 489 out of 557 votes; 44 delegates voted against him and 24 abstained. This meant he had the support of 87.5 per cent of the delegates as against 82.6 per cent three years ago.

in some cases of entire professions.

To state this fact objectively is not to reject technological progress.

Employees and their representatives have long since realised that the economic health of this country depends on its competitiveness on world markets. And this competitiveness can only be maintained by high productivity, or modern methods of production.

There is no denying, however, that technological innovations often mean new strains on the employee. And what is hailed as progress is not always interpreted as such by those affected by it. Often it turns out to be a big step forward for company profits and little else.

The human being in the centre? Can only the employers decide where this centre is?

Hans-Willy Bein (Kölnischer Stadt-Anzeiger, 26 September 1980)

In his closing speech, Loderer defended his union's wage negotiating policy against criticism from delegates by pointing to the successes achieved in the past three years in wage negotiations — in difficult political and economic circumstances.

He listed these successes as: six weeks minimum annual holiday for all metal workers; reduction of the working week to below 40 hours in some sectors; raising of wages and salaries to meet the higher cost of living; and successes in the struggle against lockouts.

Loderer stressed that the struggle to maintain the metal industry co-determination model was not to "defend the fat livings of union officials but the rights of workers."

He repeated that the declared aim of the union was to extend the metal industry co-determination model to all of industry.

He said that the executive was contemplating action to back these demands.

The nature and extent of the action would depend on the response of the politicians. The union would await with interest what was said on co-determination after the Bundestag election.

November of this year would be the 30th anniversary of the Rhine and Ruhr metal workers' vote to strike to support metal industry co-determination.

Loderer promised that the West German trade unions would not let this anniversary pass without showing their determination to defend the metal industry co-determination model and to have it extended to industry as a whole.

Some delegates criticised the executive for accepting the wage rises in one district for the union as a whole.

They also accused it of inadequate information and lack of democratic coordination in regional wage negotiations.

Another criticism was that district representatives often merely had a rubber-stamping function and that the wage commission was thus degraded into a mere acclamation machine.

The union executive made no mention of the controversy over wage negotiating policy in their report.

Nor did they mention the discussion on supplementary pay increases in the event of unexpectedly high increases in the cost of living.

(Stuttgarter Nachrichten, 26 September 1980)

FINANCE

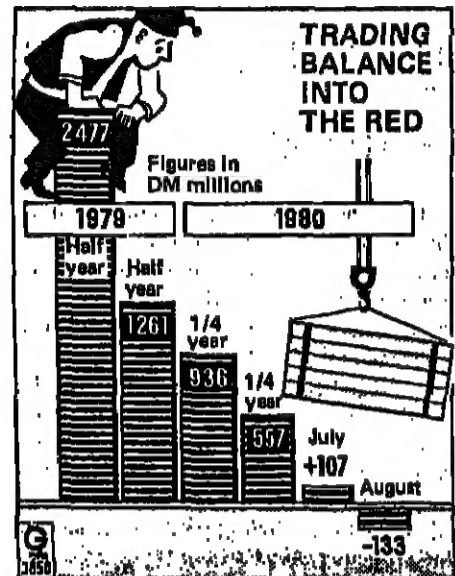
Latest trade figures confirm the continuing slide into the red

The trade figures for August have shown a deficit. This follows the trend that has thrown West Germany's balance of trade into the red for the first time in 15 years.

For years, there were surpluses, often big ones. But last year the story changed. The balance (which reflects not only foreign trade but also services and transfers) slipped into the red for the first time since the mid-1960s.

Although the figures for August were expected, they still serve as a warning.

So far, German exports have always reliably earned the foreign exchange needed not only to pay for our ever-rising



imports but also to finance travel abroad and to provide the currency for the transfers of money by foreign workers, for payments to international organizations (EEC), development aid and foreign investments abroad.

The balance of payments showed a deficit last year of more than DM10bn, expected to rise to between DM25bn and DM30bn this year.

This is largely due to the fact that our export surplus, which has showed a diminishing trend since 1974 when it stood at DM51bn, will now drop to less than DM10bn.

Naturally, this is primarily due to our dramatically increased oil bill.

In 1978 (when the quantity of oil imported was less than in 1973/74 and the Deutschmark appreciated), we paid about DM32bn for crude and petrochemical products, i.e. not more than before the oil crisis. But last year, with the quantity of imported crude up, our oil bill stood at DM48bn.

The Bundesbank expects this year's oil bill to rise to DM65bn, thus accounting for 4.5 per cent of GNP.

This development is clearly reflected in the prices of imports. While overall imports in 1978 became cheaper than those of the previous year, 1979 imports

were an average 10 per cent higher than those of 1978, rising to a plus of 18 per cent in the first six months of 1980.

But the high oil bill is not the only explanation for our diminishing export surplus. For one thing, the economy was still fairly buoyant in the first six months of the year, so there was considerable demand for foreign goods.

As a result, imports in the first eight months of this year outstripped those in the same period of 1979 by four per cent in real terms (nominally 20 per cent).

What is more important, however, is the structural change during the past ten years in the way in which we meet our domestic needs. In its latest monthly report, the Bundesbank pointed to an extremely heavy demand for foreign goods.

While imports of finished products amounted to a mere 25 per cent of overall imports in the mid-1960s, the proportion has now risen to 40 per cent.

There can be no mistaking the fact that this development reflects not only the gratifyingly progressive international division of labour — especially among the industrialised countries — but also the loss of competitiveness of German industry.

This is particularly evident in the fact that roughly 25 per cent of newly registered cars now come from Japan. In 1960, the proportion of Japanese cars was a mere 10 per cent.

BUSINESS

Low-price competition forces textile industry to adjust its sights



The manufacture of textiles was long considered one of the safest businesses in post-war Europe.

In the Federal Republic of Germany, the currency reform there first came eating wave and then the clothing wave.

Reminiscences Dr Konrad Neundörfer, of the Textile Industry Association: "Once the people had at last managed to fill their stomachs, they bought something to wear."

The clothing wave engulfed the count-down by the housing wave with its golden age for the textile business.

To this branch of industry grew, reaching its peak in 1957 with a payroll of 65,000.

But from then on things started deteriorating, eventually reaching today's post-war low of 300,000 employees.

Even so, Germany's textile industry is the largest in the EEC — not only in terms of staff but also regarding the volume of production.

The golden age has long been over, as come out by the balance sheets.

Like the clothing industry, its biggest rival, the textile industry was the first to feel the pinch of structural change.

The worst years in middle 1970s

As far back as 1962 it became obvious that the textile world was out of kilter. This is when the structural change began. But the worst years were 1974 and 1975 when structural change and recession combined.

Output diminished dramatically and it seemed as if Germany's textile industry would run out of steam. Low price competition from abroad was about to displace German manufacturers from world markets.

The life buoy was thrown in the nick of time: it came in the form of all-out rationalisation — something which other branches of industry would do well to emulate.

This is further substantiated by the diminishing resistance against the special drawing rights for the textile resources to developing countries, called for in the Action Programme of the Group of 24. Here, too, the dynamism of this branch of industry, which was primarily directed at raising the productivity level, was made plain by rapid technological progress.

Under heavy pressure by foreign competition, German textile companies quick to adopt technical innovations, of the 29 branches of German industry, only petrochemicals, chemicals and food processing have forged further than textiles.

A high degree of investment was needed to achieve this. From 1970 to 1979 the textile industry put DM13bn into modernisation and modernisation in an off-flying that there seems to be a lack of interest in the offing over the issue likely to prevent a political weakening of the textile industry has managed to all this on its own steam and without state subsidies.

Even under the growing pressure of the Third World it is unlikely that IMF will change its character, from a component in the strategy of the want to turn the Fund into an instrument of development aid, the World's demand for more voting power in the Fund and the World Bank is clearly aimed at changing the of decisions.

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confused situation. The agreement applies to cotton, wool and man-made fibres. It permits selective import restrictions directed against specific supplier countries.

Export restrictions may be agreed upon but they must not reduce the existing volume of shipments. In other words, they may only restrict the growth rate.

But even this agreement, which expires in 1981, has not acted as a brake: German imports from low wage countries rose between 1970 and 1978 from DM1.3bn to DM5.9bn — up 341 per cent.

Germany's textile industry is not only fighting against world-wide competition but also against competition within the European Community. Among the sore points here are the distorting subsidies within the Community.

Some EEC governments are prepared to pay dearly to keep their textile and clothing industries alive.

Germany's textile industry opposes any such government intervention at home. In fact, of the nine EEC governments, only Germany and Denmark provide no subsidies for their textile industries. Italy and France are the worst offenders.

In view of these problems, it is obvious that the manufacture of textiles is anything but a pushover in Germany — neither now nor in the years to come.

But there are also opportunities. Due to its high degree of technical knowhow, Germany can produce top quality goods which are in particular demand — especially in times of crisis.

Where cheap goods are concerned, low wage countries will continue to dominate world markets. Germany's industry must therefore concentrate on the discriminating buyer.

Peter Roller
(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 27 September 1980)

Firms will go to the wall, bankers are warned

The Society of German Engineers (VDI) fears that many branches of business will lose as many as half of the existing medium-sized firms by 1985.

Delegates to a Berlin seminar organized by the VDI's Technology Centre, heard that this fear is based on the consequence of indecision and the difficulties in putting technical knowhow across. The situation is further aggravated by considerable changes in the cost structure brought on through the introduction of new technologies.

Klaus Friebe, manager of the VDI Technology Centre, therefore called on the banks to review their present lending criteria, taking into account technological elements that are increasingly gaining in importance.

The looming end of a large part of our medium sized companies with payrolls between 20 and 200 can only be prevented if the banks train their staff to enable them to provide technical advice or, failing this, if they employ unbiased technical consultants.

"Without the necessary capital provided by the banks, it will be almost impossible to realise the transfer of technology," Herr Friebe concluded.

Hans Karl Nolle of the City Savings Bank in Kassel told the delegates that the problems of medium sized firms must be viewed as a challenge to the business policy of banks.

Peter Philipps
(Die Welt, 19 September 1980)

Institution or money machine for aid? The crucial question for the IMF

Will the International Monetary Fund remain the world's foremost institution for monetary cooperation among its 140 member nations, or will it turn into a money machine for development aid?

This is the crux of the issue under debate in both the official and the unofficial sections of the joint annual conference of the World Bank and the IMF.

There is political and economic dynamism in such innocuous topics of discussion as "the role of the IMF in recycling oil money" or "action programme of the Group of 24".

The North-South confrontation has always dominated the scene at IMF conferences. But this has now become more pronounced than ever before.

The Special General Assembly of the UN, where the Third World recently demanded a restructuring of the international monetary system to be brought in line with its own ideas, is but a taste of things to come.

The IMF is expected to bridge between the 115bn dollar balance of payments surplus of Opec and the 50bn dollar deficit of the non-oil producing developing countries, which have been particularly hard hit by the oil-price explosion.

The private banks alone cannot solve this problem. And the nouveau riche Opec countries have largely failed to meet their responsibilities. In fact, they do not even contribute much to the IMF, thus forcing it to borrow on private money markets and making it shoulder much of the risk.

It is not enough for the IMF to lend money to the Third World. In the long run, the problem can only be solved if the borrowers are prepared to make re-

forms at home. IMF loans have wisely been tied to special terms to force the recipients to do more towards self-help.

Still, it is undeniable that the IMF the way it was conceived after the war was not designed to cope with the huge deficits of the oil-price victims among the developing countries.

The major industrial countries which still dominate the Fund will have to come to grips with this fact.

But the IMF must not go too far in providing new credit facilities and in softening the terms. Moreover, its ac-

commodation must be restricted to the period of the most dire emergency.

In the long run, it is of little use to the developing countries to opt for the easy way of financing their needs with freshly printed IMF money rather than embarking on reforms because this can only lead to more inflation and even more disastrous problems.

But the hope that the Western industrial countries would speak with one voice along these lines is rather vague, and there is the palpable danger that the United States and the Federal Republic

of Germany will find little support for their conservative attitudes.

The flexibility that so many want the IMF to show in a bid to avert the bankruptcy of developing countries is a time bomb. In fact, the IMF is a danger of turning into an inflation machine.

This is further substantiated by the diminishing resistance against the special drawing rights for the textile resources to developing countries, called for in the Action Programme of the Group of 24. Here, too, the dynamism of this branch of industry, which was primarily directed at raising the productivity level, was made plain by rapid technological progress.

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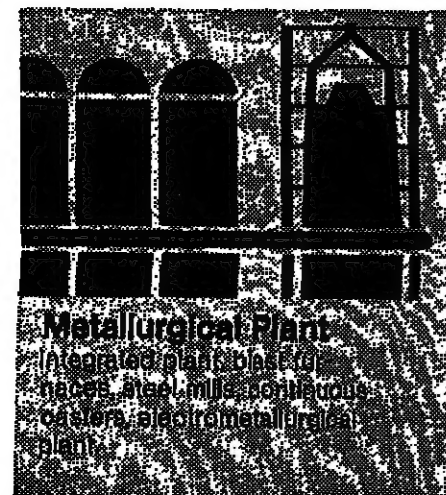
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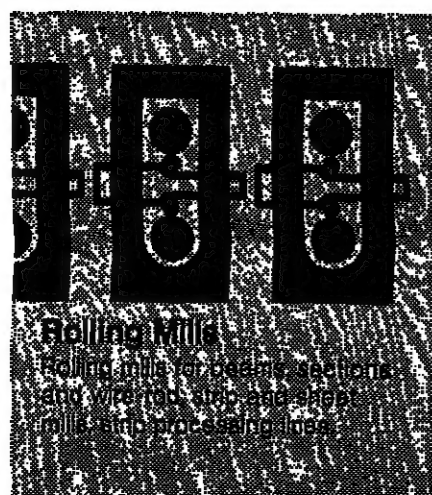
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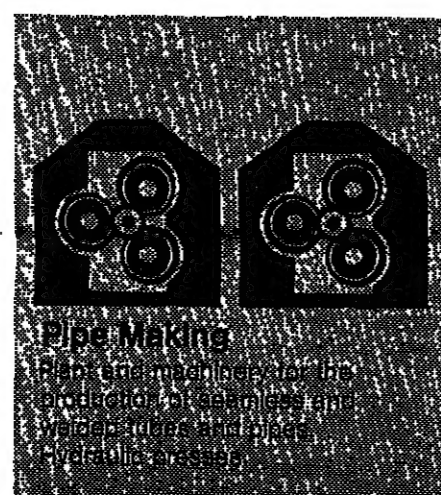
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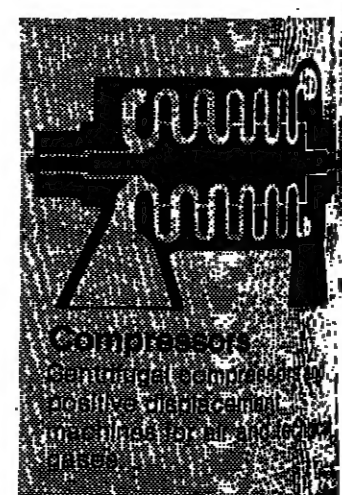
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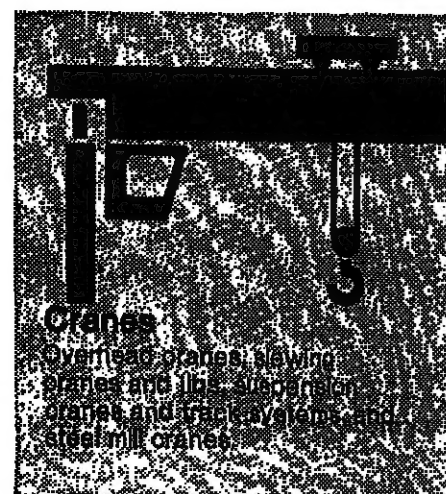
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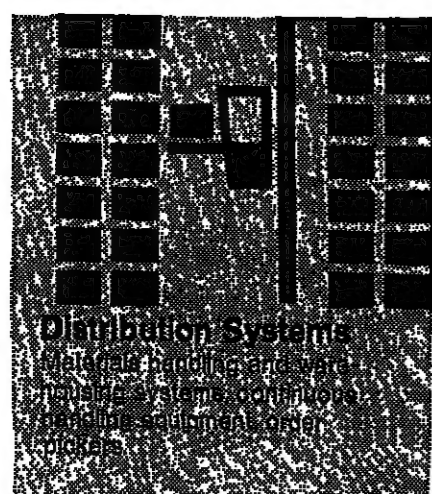
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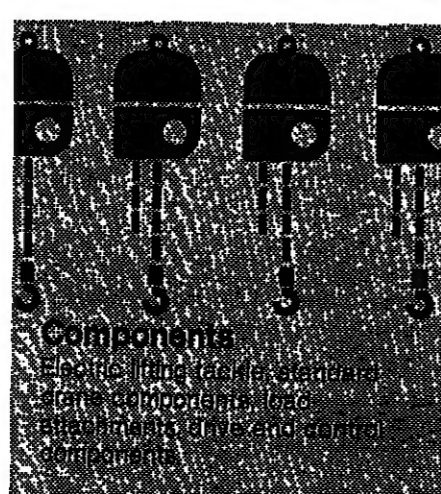
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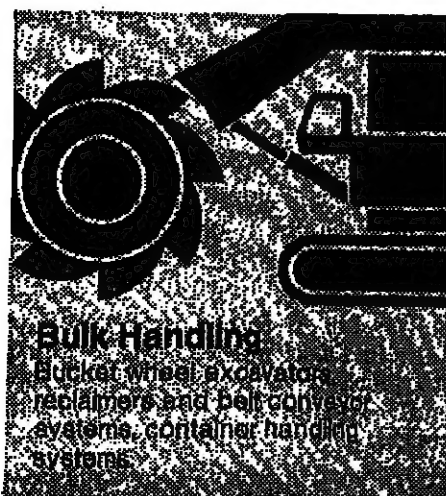
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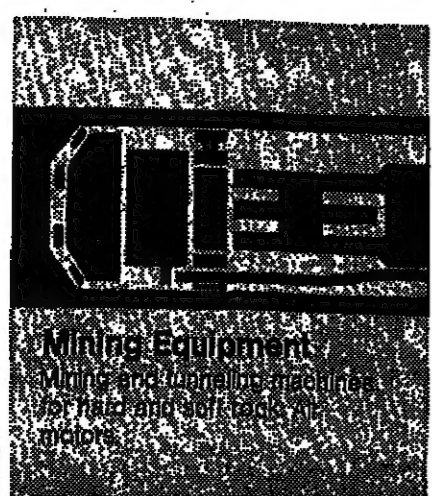
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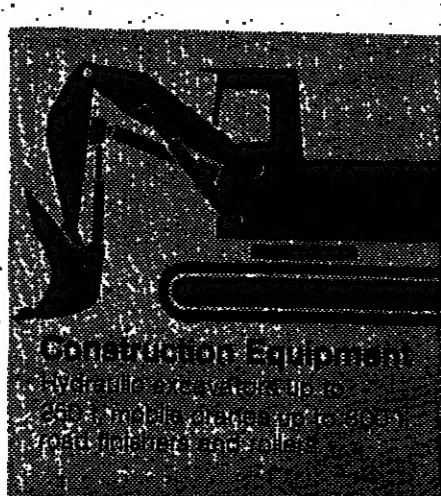
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Machinery for the production of plastic products, also for the production of plastic films and sheets.



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Mining and quarrying machines, also for the production of aggregates and other materials.



Construction Equipment
Piling machines, also for the production of concrete and other materials.



Machine
Machine for the production of mechanical and electrical equipment.

TECHNOLOGY

Exhibition shows march of the marine revolution



The technology of the ship clearly fascinates not only landlubbers but also tried and tested seamen.

This is clear from reactions to the Ships, Machines and Marine Technology International Exhibition in Hamburg. Exhibition halls contain pistons, pumps, hydraulics. Entire halls are filled with motors, gears and compressors. Electronic precision instruments, micro computers and ship computer systems have revolutionised seafaring in the past years and will continue to revolutionise it in future decades.

The ship of the future is thoroughly technologised — from telephones protected against spray to the remote control of propellers.

Of course between throbbing technology and high-powered electronics there is little room for the romance of the

seven seas — little, but nonetheless some.

There are for example whales' teeth in glass cases, fine ships in bottles and measuring instruments from the glorious era of the windjammers. The teeth cost hundreds of marks and a Pollard London telescope made in 1878 costs just under DM1,000.

Proximity to nostalgic relics of seafaring can be attained more easily in the bars which form the centre of attraction of almost every stand. Old position lanterns, wooden oars and even a finely carved figurehead create a cozy ambience for bar regulars.

And of these there is no shortage, especially in the early hours of the morning. The air in the halls is extremely dry and a powerful cause of thirst.

The central theme of the exhibition, in which 700 companies from 25 countries look part, was shipbuilding and marine technology in the widest sense.

Particularly impressive was the model of a floatlift carrier from a German ship-

yard. This special ship for overseas transportation of barges, the floating containers of inland waterways, makes the harbour crane redundant, because the barges simply float in the belly of the ship. The ship can be flooded like a dock. Also fascinating were the models presenting marine technology, to to speak, in an aquarium. A Hamburg company used a large glass aquarium to demonstrate a kind of submarine excavator it has developed with backing from the Bonn Ministry of Research. The machine looks at first sight like something Jules Verne might have described but in fact it is a highly efficient digger of undersea trenches for cables and pipelines.

Another crowdpuller was working model of an oil rig which spellbound spectators as the hydraulic system raised the platform above sea-level.

The next hall contains a model tower in troubled water — a crane with a 150 metre underwater support, swaying back and forth with wind and water.

But despite all the technology, human beings are not forgotten. A film distributor is selling 16 millimetres cinema films for the long, boring hours at sea, another company specialises in cassettes.

The whole range of international cinema is available — "less sex than over on the Reeperbahn, though" I hear at the stand. Still, *Emmanuelle* is selling pretty well... Eberhard Krummheuer (Handelsblatt, 25 September 1980)



A model of the German oil platform RS 35 at the marine exhibition. (Photos: Bernd-Jürgen P. Fischer)

House of the future: a fortress

Frankfurter Allgemeine

The house of the future will not only have sun collectors and energy saving heat pumps; it will also be equipped like a fortress.

The range of security devices now available mean that risks from the terrorist and the criminal can be mitigated.

What is now offered is total security systems, involving items from bullet-proof glass to highly complex burglar-alarm.

Experts at the International Security Fair in Essen reckoned that in future security systems would account for two to three per cent of the costs of building a house.

Taking DM300,000 as the price of a house, this would mean between DM6,000 and DM9,000. For this the houseowner will be able to choose from a range including burglar-proof doors and windows, alarm systems and other security systems.

Modern micro-electronics have revolutionised burglar alarms. There are, for example, systems which do not react to normal sounds in the house but only to the sound of a window pane being cut.

Other systems sound the alarm when doors and windows are opened. Radar devices which record movements, infrared scanners which register body heat can also provide protection.

At the moment, the houseowner has to go to a lot of trouble to get together all the systems he needs to give him total security. But the security industry means to remedy this and in some towns there are already shops specialising in mechanical and electronic security systems for the home.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 15 September 1980)

Probe coal and wind power, shipbuilders urged

West German shipyards should do more research into coal-fuelled and wind-powered ships, according to Heinz Ruhnaus, Secretary of State at the Ministry of Transport.

Speaking at the opening of the marine technology exhibition in Hamburg, he said that a merchant navy to meet the requirements of "our sea and foreign trade is indispensable."

The shipping industry in West Germany should not use regulations against unfair competition to protect itself against better foreign products.

High-wage countries must use modern technology. And this meant state subsidies.

The Hamburg exhibition boasts 495 direct exhibitors and 220 firms represented in other ways.

Hamburg Economics Senator Jürgen Steinert said it was the most comprehensive information exhibition of world shipping and marine technology.

Speaking of the shipping industry of developing countries he said: "Lamentations and calls for protectionist measures in this context are politically unacceptable."

He appealed to traditional shipbuilding countries gradually to reduce the level of subsidies given to the industry. He said the time for this was ripe in view of recent employment developments.

German shipyard suppliers look to the future not without optimism, according to their spokesman Ekkhard Nelmeke. He said this was because the supply industry depended on the number — and not the tonnage — of new ships ordered.

The German shipbuilding supply industry — more than 200 engineering and electronics companies — has an annual turnover between DM3bn and 3.5bn; 55 per cent of this is exports.

Dennis Stonebridge, director of a British consulting firm, was less optimistic. He said that a number of shipbuilders in Western Europe had gone out of busi-

ness and others, having cut capacities and reduced investment, were probably less competitive now than before.

Stonebridge concluded: "Traditional shipbuilding firms generally produce ships at higher costs. Nonetheless, some of these shipyards in the past were able to maintain their position thanks of their technological lead."

He said he doubted if this would happen in the future, because many shipyards in the Third World were just as developed as those in Europe and Japan. He said that in Europe the high wage and material costs were out of all proportion to productivity and that shipbuilding would continue to decline in Europe for that reason.

Japan, he said, would be able to maintain its position. D. F. Hertel (Die Welt, 24 September 1980)

THE PERFORMING ARTS

Double premiere for 'Die Villa', the final unit of Dorst's tetralogy

Tankred Dorst's *Die Villa* is having simultaneous premieres. In Düsseldorf it is directed by Jaroslav Chundela and in Stuttgart by Günter Krämer.

Die Villa, described by Dorst as "a German story", is the last of four stories, which although they form a single unit, stand on their own.

The first was the comedy *Auf dem Chimborazo*, which has been performed often since its premiere in 1970.

The second part was *Dorothea Merz*, which was directed by Peter Beauvais for television. Dorst himself directed the third part, *Klars Mutter*.

The tetralogy deals with the early post-war years in Germany.

The villa of this latest play is close to the German-German border. The time: 1948. The events and the characters are fictional. Two of them, Tilmann and Heinrich, sons of Dorothea Merz, were also characters in the first play *Auf dem Chimborazo*.

Dorst, who was born in Thuringia, here includes and reflects on childhood memories of the Russian-occupied zone and this gives the play a strong, authentic atmosphere.

Dorst vividly remembers the villa built in the twenties and the mysterious murder of its owner, a Madame Bovary.

He makes this villa the centre of the action. The former property of industrialist Kurt Bergk, who tries to disguise his capitalist past by frantic efforts to conform to the new "socialist state" now serves as provisional rented accommodation for a motley group of people from different classes and with completely different points of view.



A scene from the Chundela version of 'Die Villa' being performed in Düsseldorf. (Photo: Lars Bernbach)

The version by the young Czech director, Chundela in the Kleines Haus in Düsseldorf, is notable for its precise observation of different characters and the subtle skill with which passionate love, aggressive hatred, longings, fears, conformist party intolerance, resignation are portrayed.

Dorst's story contains little action, few overt elements of tension. Dorst abstains from any kind of ideological identification. Nonetheless, Chundela, succeeds in developing an increasingly tense inner drama from the emotional moods and responses of the characters.

The authenticity of the production is

confirmed by the fact that the dramatic concept was jointly worked out by Dorst and Jürgen Fischer. Helmut Stürmer's stage set and Ljuba Winterhalter's costumes capture well the feel of those post-war years when mere survival was the main aim.

The dilapidated splendour of the villa with the view from the terrace of wintry, leafless treetops and the elegant curve of the central staircase to the upper storey really and symbolically reflect the turning point between two eras.

This area becomes a stopover point for a group of very different individuals thrown together by circumstances.

The actors are excellent. Michael Nig dominates as the neurotic owner Kurt whose clashes with his son Heinrich, bastard son of a communist student, sometimes in physical violence. Robert played with convincing temper and angry arrogance by Markus Lee.

He is furious about a society his mother, a former maid, played by Hanna Sellert - still submissive, courtly attitude "her better."

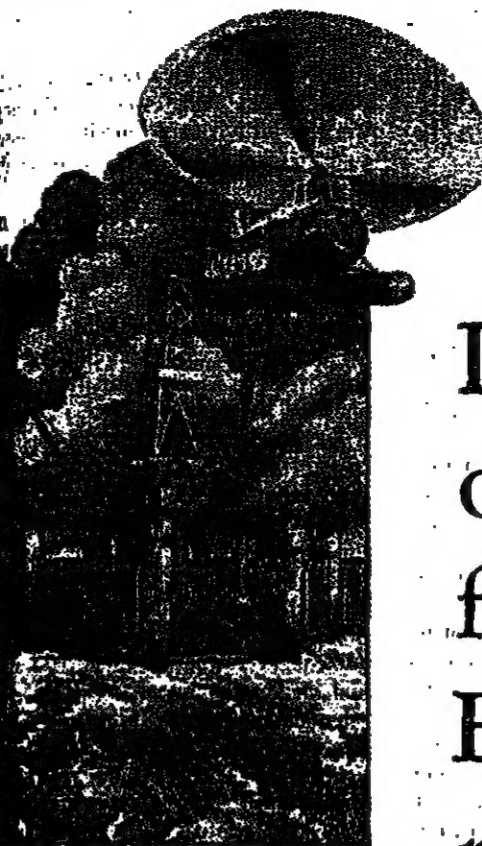
Actor Herzog tells the common former concentration camp inmate for you means pain, have never seen you said. You are a weakness! Klaus Hertz plays classically obsessed actor, reality as a drama, with the vanity of the experienced actor.

The central figure is Elsa, her husband, the houseowner, go to the west but not with her secret lover, Christina. She presses with her fine, high performance. Heinrich, played by Tilmann Berkel, is an illegal interloper, smuggling in black money from the west and helping people escape via the green frontier at sea.

In her first conversation with rich she seems perhaps too fast. But she movingly depicts increasing isolation, which she takes an overdose of sleeping pills.

Volker Martens plays the Heinrich's shy brother, Tilmann, vainly tries to win Elsa's love. Splake, Dieter Prochnow, Gregor and Christa Vogel are fine performers in a production which one can only commend - who was there - and the director Chundela.

The applause was powerful and sustained. (Hannoversche Allgemeine, 23 September)



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Indian performance sets the tone at Cologne Pantomime Festival

The opening performance of this year's Pantomime Festival at the Cologne Music Academy was by the Kerala Kalamandalam company, from India.

This group gave an authentic performance of the classical Indian dance play, *Kathakali*.

The high standards required at the festival, and reflected in this performance, are due to Milan Sladek.

This is Sladek's festival, as the audience at the opening ceremony acknowledged when his name was mentioned.

They knew how much Sladek has done to upgrade the status of mime both here and throughout the world.

Last year, Irshad, Panjaram demonstrated the style of the powerful body and gesture language used in these plays.

Unlike the gentler, more feminine style of the Bharata Natyam, performed by T.N. Gayathri.

The artists of the Kerala dance academy brought to life the old tradition of Hindu dance plays which dates back to the 8th century B.C. Of course they only performed an excerpt from such a play, which lasts all night. But this was enough to impress the audience.

It was not the exotic nature of the spectacle that fascinated the audience. The struggles between the gods and demons of Indian religion remain

strange to us, but the state of mind, the sense of time and the strongly differentiated sense of style come across to the audience nonetheless.

The highly professional music of the Kerala combo played an important part here. The constantly changing rhythms and the five-tone system immediately captured the attention. Rhythmic precision, changes of tempo and volume - whether sung or played - were performed with virtuosity.

Then the extremely subtle hand movements, the so-called mudras; the actors' mimic expressions, movements of the eyes, eyelids and mouth; the stamping, sometimes searing dance movements conveyed a broad range of human psychology - from exalted purity to fierce passion and brutality.

The costumes, headgear and superb masks, full of symbolic meaning, were splendid. Also authentic was the curtain, held in front of a flickering light by two assistants - part of the ritual preparation of the dance drama proper.

At the height of the drama this curtain is then pulled away. A feast for the eyes, though somewhat spoilt by the unbelievably banal colours and material of the academy hall. This is a constant source of irritation. Not even the magnificent opening performance of the pantomime festival could quite make us

forget this annoyance. On the Saturday Milan Sladek, the Kefka theatre of Cologne and its ensemble were on the programme. Sladek was applauded rapturously when he came in and was visibly moved and astonished by the response. A quick change of costume and one sketch followed the next: "The Rejected Man," "The Death of the Civil Servant," "The Little Soldier." There was applause even before each sketch. Milan Sladek and his ensemble plays do not lose sight of the effect of recognising certain basic human experiences. Sladek is a great poet and actor - he does not parade his



The classical Indian dance play, Kathakali, performed by the Kerala Kalamandalam company.

Continued on page 12

■ ANTHROPOLOGY

Too many for too few jobs in the emergent science of ethnology

Many people associate ethnology as an academic discipline and a profession with adventurous expeditions to the far-flung corners of the world.

But ethnology is far from a dream profession. The institutes of the various universities have not enough jobs to offer and today there are only 200 practising ethnologists. Yet the number of university students enrolled for this subject is ten times this figure, i.e. between 2,000 and 3,000 — and this is unlikely to change in the foreseeable future.

Ethnology — or cultural and social anthropology, as it is called in the English-speaking areas of the world — is rather confusing inasmuch as the discipline is still trying to find a name for itself.

Pantomime

Continued from page 10

means and his methods but makes us forget them. Whether contemplating a flower or playing Samson and Delilah or whether, as in his grotesque *The Gift*, his art is always a mirror held up to men and the world.

He is never crude, though he omits nothing which is part of life. He sublimates the banal and the vulgar. Congratulations are due to him and his ensemble: to Lorraine von Gehlen, Sylvia Springer-Thomas, Isidor Fernandez and Eduard Zlabek.

The first two days of the festival already indicated its range. Young, inexperienced experimental groups have been invited too. Hannelore Taschenberger, Claus van Bebber and Paul Hubweber were the artists on the bill in the first evening performance at the Kefka theatre.

However, their parallel actions turned out to be inadequate attempts to formulate a statement. Their performance had nothing to do with avant-gardism.

The trio's use of all kinds of devices, tape-recorders, sparklers, ropes and ladders only served to underline that action art and pantomime only lead anywhere when you have mastered the craft.

At the end of the performance the audience slipped away — those that were still left — without applause, without boos or bravos, as if they were embarrassed at having stayed to the end.

Helmut Schefer

(Kölnischer Stadt-Anzeiger, 23 September 1980)

Neanderthal Man 'is not the oldest'

The Neanderthal Man discovered in 1856 and named after a small place near Düsseldorf, is not the oldest "Rhinelander", says the city administration of Mönchengladbach.

New finds in Mönchengladbach proper, says the city council, indicate that there was a type of man several tens of thousands years older living in the south of what today is the city.

Archaeologists of the State Museum in Bonn and the Institute for Early History of Cologne University who discovered the find in a clay pit say that this type of man was the "oldest European".

And as soon as agreement is reached to settle on the term "ethnology", various associations of ideas make the picture confusing again: South Sea romanticism, civilising primitive peoples, head hunters, witchcraft and racial theories — all these prejudices trouble the image of ethnology even today in our age of mass tourism and worldwide communications.

Ethnology is a science that originated in antiquity. It started with the description of alien peoples. Later, it was primarily travellers, colonial administrators and missionaries who reported on foreign cultures and societies.

This rather amorphous mass of studies, which initially became part of history and geography, eventually crystallised into ethnology (around the middle of the last century) and was buttressed by the establishment of museums and ethnological societies.

Today, this discipline is tersely defined as "science of the cultures of peoples".

It is based on the assumption of differing human attitudes in different societies and attempts to explain the resulting differences and similarities.

Such comparison is not an end in itself. Instead, the intention is to show how relative and limited individual cultures and societies, including our own, are.

Ethnology is thus also an instrument of self recognition, aimed at removing prejudices about things alien to us and seemingly anomalous.

Traditionally, ethnology deals with non-European tribal societies, their techniques and social setups. In addition, it has lately focussed its attention on the developing countries and their dependence on the industrial world.

Ethnologists now also devote more and more attention to the problems of minorities in industrial countries. The way of life and the integration difficulties of foreign workers and gypsies are no longer off limits for ethnologists.

Unlike in former years, when ethnologists were seen as travellers to exotic places with a pronounced obsession to collect various items, they now live for prolonged periods in alien cultures — almost like immigrants.

They gather their data through field work, for it is in the field that they must familiarise themselves with the everyday life of such civilisations, with

the significance of language, gestures and objects.

Observation, the collecting of objects, interviews, tests, social programmes, film and tape recordings serve to provide extensive insights into the way of life of various ethnic groups. This proves the closeness of ethnology to related sciences such as sociology, history, geography and psychology.

Universities and museums evaluate the results of this work — and this is where most of today's ethnologists are employed.

The function of museum ethnology is to convey ethnological data to the public in an easily understandable manner. They plan and organise exhibitions, buy the necessary material, look after the archives and take part in field work.

Since museums see themselves more and more as educational institutions, pedagogical elements have gained in importance in ethnology.

Audiovisual media, batik and ceramics are now used by museums to convey insights into hitherto unknown crafts and activities.

This is supplemented by discussions with visitors, while special educational toys for children serve to remove the usual threshold fear.

This part of the operation is looked after by museum specialists and their discipline now goes under the name "museum paedagogics".

But what about practical career prospects for ethnologists? They exist, of course; but vacancies have been filled for years ahead in both universities and ethnological museums.

Autumn brings out the archaeologists again

Exit tourists, enter archaeologists. The autumn will see the beginning of major excavation work by German archaeologists all the way from Munigua (Spain) to Millet (Turkey).

Unfortunately, in Iran and Iraq the researchers' work has been thwarted by current events.

The fact that archaeologists usually begin their work in September is not so much due to diminishing tourism as to the more gentle climate of the autumn.

The most important German dig on Greek soil is still Samos. Research work into the temple of Hera, the wife of Zeus, has been in progress for the past 100 years.

Recently, the Germans bought a new site to search for the "holy road" which once linked the city with the temple.

But after only a few days the archaeologists, headed by Professor Kyrieleis, found the torso of a giant *kouros* of which a leg had been found some years ago. The torso is 5.5 metres high and is thus one of the largest antique statues to have been found.

While the work in Epirus in north-west Greece, with its research into the settlement history of the region, ended last year, the work in Olympia has just begun. The archaeologists are now concentrating on the baths of Olympia in an effort to establish their significance in everyday life.

But there are also career prospects in development aid, where they work in an advisory capacity, to prepare certain projects and their effects on the population.

Though most career forecasts are speculation, it is obvious that ethnologists with a doctorate have an edge on others. It is also certain that knowledge in other fields — foreign languages, economics as well as practical agricultural knowledge — is ahead of the game.

Such training can find its use in tourism — an area in which more ethnology students are being trained.

There is no rigid and precise training for work in development aid. Much is certain: ethnology is not enough, for this must be supplemented by other specialised knowledge.

Generally, what matters is initiative and imagination in attempting a job in a field where prospects are termed bleak.

Professor Hans Fischer, an ethnologist: "More people assume that ethnology deals with dress, head hunting and such, few know that the ethnologist studies the problems of foreignism and differences between peoples. Only once the public realises more use can be made of ethnology."

Thirteen German universities offer ethnology courses, which subject to the so-called museum. Since most institutes are not frequently having only one or two assistants and one last range of subjects is obviously limited.

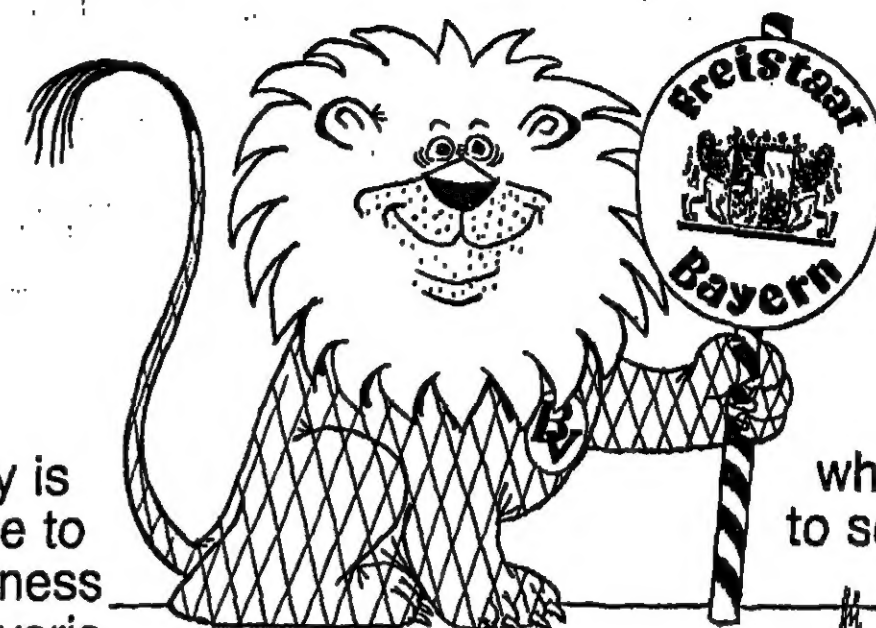
There is also no uniform curriculum. But a knowledge of foreign languages, especially English, is a must. Most literature on the subject is in that language.

The minimum study time is six semesters, including practical museum work, and in some cases field work.

Erwin

(Die Zeit, 26 September 1980)

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